

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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46

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SCA-01 JUSE-00 EB-11 COME-00

TRSE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

PRS-01 USIA-12 PA-03 RSR-01 /094 W

----- 066678

R 301340 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7584

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 1678

E. O. 11652: XGDS 1

TAGS: EFIN, PFOR, US, SZ

SUBJ: AMBASSADOR WEITNAUER ON JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE TREATY

1. AMBASSADOR ALBERT WEITNAUER, WHO WILL HEAD SWISS DEL IN NEGOTIATIONS ON JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE TREATY, TELEPHONED APRIL 28 TO EXPRESS OPTIMISM THAT TREATY CAN BE SIGNED IN MAY. HE HAS COMPLETED ANOTHER ROUND OF TALKS WITH LEADERS IN SWISS BANKING AND INDUSTRY AND FINDS THEY ACCEPT THRUST OF TREATY AND CLOSER COOPERATION WITH US ON CRIMINAL MATTERS.

2. ON MATTERS BE TAKEN UP DURING TECHNICAL TALKS, WEITNAUER SAID SWISS WILL SUGGEST FURTHER SAFEGUARDS FOR INFORMATION THAT IS PROTECTED BY SWISS SECRECY LAWS AND IS WANTED AS EVIDENCE IN US PROCEEDINGS. HE ALSO INDICATED SWISS BANKING AND INDUSTRY AND HE PERSONALLY REGARD TREATY TEXT AS OBSCURE AND DIFFICULT TO COMPREHEND, AND HE ASKED THAT US DEL BE PREPARED TO STRIVE FOR GREATER CLARITY IN TREATY LANGUAGE. EMBOFF NOTED PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES FOR US IN MAKING LAST- MINUTE LANGUAGE CHANGES AND THAT EFFORTS TO IMPROVE LANGUAGE RAISE RISK OF SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES THAT BOTH SIDES WOULD WANT TO AVOID. WEITNAUER STRESSED THAT HE HAS NONSUBSTANTIVE CHANGES IN MIND.

3. WEITNAUER APOLOGIZED THAT DEPARTURE OF FEDERAL COUNCILOR GRABER ON APRIL 30 FOR VISIT TO EGYPT MEANS FEDERAL COUNCIL  
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PROBABLY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO APPROVE NEGOTIATING MANDATE ON

MAY 2. DECISION ON MANDATE WILL LIKELY HAVE TO BE DEFERRED TO  
COUNCIL MEETING ON MAY 9.

4. COMMENT: SEE BERN' S 1314 FOR COMMENTS OF SWISS TECHNICAL  
LEVEL GROUP ON CHANGES IN TREATY DRAFT THAT WERE RECOMMENDED  
TO AMBASSADOR WEITNAUER.  
DAVIS

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NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
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**Draft Date:** 30 APR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Subject:** AMBASSADOR WEITNAUER ON JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE TREATY  
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